

Niagara River Riparian Restoration Program Phase 2

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for

Greenway Ecological Standing Committee

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Niagara River Riparian Restoration Program – Phase 2

Grant Project Areas:

1. Living Shoreline Restoration Projects
2. Third-party Evaluation of Phase 1 Shoreline projects
3. Native Niagara! Ready, Set, Grow! (seed program)
4. Invasive Water Chestnut Pull Events
5. Website & Educational Tools for Waterfront Landowners

Living Shorelines

YEAR 1 - Program Setup:

- Revised the Program Structure & Process
- Established Site Selection, Design & Restoration Timeline
- Project Manager in Place
- Evaluated Bio-engineering Methodologies
- Developed Auto CAD & Construction Contractor Standards



Southern Environmental Law Center's Living Shorelines Program

Living Shorelines

Currently:

- Establishing Technical Advisory Committee
- Collecting “Living Shorelines” Technical Design Standards
- Beginning potential Site Inventory
 - GIS mapping
 - Existing research
 - Partner priorities
- Further Refining Site Selection Process (criteria)



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Michigan State University's Natural Shorelines Program

Living Shorelines (2014)

- Finalize Site Identification (8-10 sites for further Investigation)
- TAC Site tours, Assessment & Ranking
- Landowner Outreach & Buy-in
- Concept Development (1-2 sites per year)
- Secure Technical Services
- Schematic Development & Cost Estimates
- Present Designs & Costs to GESC
- Select Sites for Construction
- Further Refine Designs & Costs
- Develop Construction Bid Package

Third-Party Evaluation (2014)

- Contract with area University for Evaluation Piece
- Establish Graduate Fellowship for Evaluation Development & Implementation
- Evaluate Phase 1 Sites & Document Findings
- Incorporate Recommendations into Phase 2 work
- Provide Landowners Technical Assistance



Vermont's Lake Encroachment Permit Program - Peacham Pond

Native Niagara! Ready, Set, Grow!

Seed Program Setup:

- Target Site List
- Plant Species List
- Site Assessment Forms
- Assessment Guidelines & Checklist
- Site Assessment Database
- Flowering/Seeding Database
- Field Reference Sheets

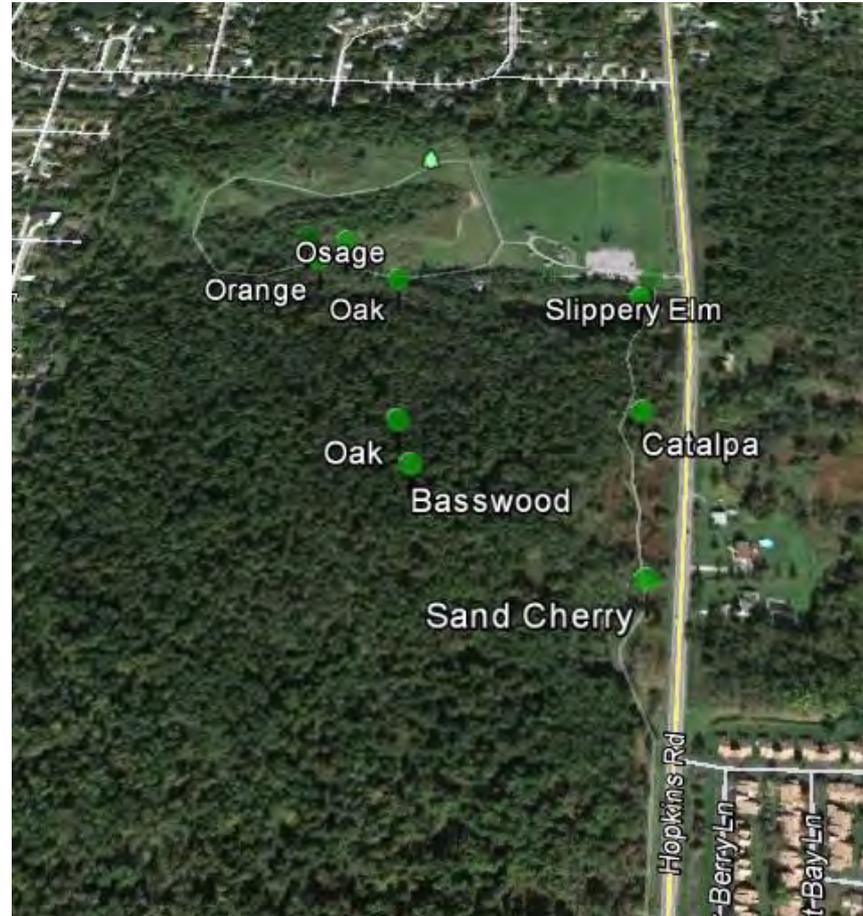


David Lee, Saratoga Springs Nursery, instructing River Academy Students on Seed Collection

Native Niagara! Ready, Set, Grow!

Accomplishments to date:

- 21 Assessments Conducted
- 17 Different Natural Areas Assessed
- 3 Seed Collection Events
- Over 20 cubic feet of seeds collected
- 39 Volunteers engaged
- 200+ Volunteer collection hours logged



Field Assessment & GPS Data of Great Baehre Swamp

Native Niagara! Ready, Set, Grow!

2014

- Further Assess Local Sites for Native Species
- Develop GIS mapping with species data sets
- Hold 5-8 seed collection events
- Establish local growing partnerships
- Maintain native growing database

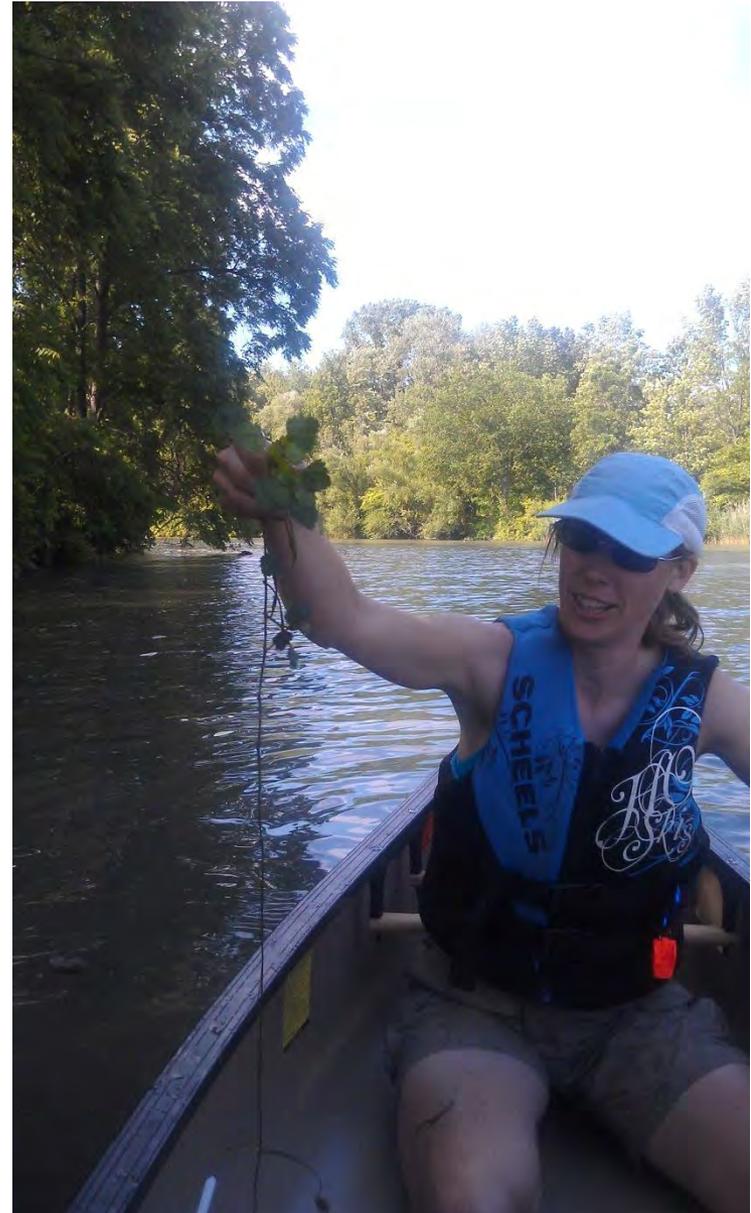


Basswood
Tilia caroliniana

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Water Chestnut Pull Events

- Established Invasive Water Chestnut Eradication Strategy with USFWS
- Purchased Equipment for Removals
- Conducted Baseline Inspections of Tonawanda Creek
- Conducted 3 Water Chestnut removal events



Water Chestnut Pull Events



August 2013 - Youthworks teen service organization pull event

Website & Educational Tools

Currently Revising Native & Naturalized Plant Guide



Website & Educational Tools

2014

- Waterfront Landowner Stewardship Guide
- Native & Naturalized Plant Guide printing in January
- Online Invasive Species Management Tool Kits
- Update Website with Guides, Tool Kits & BMPs
- Announce & distribute Educational Tools to area partners and organizations

www.bnriverkeeper.org

